

Missouri School for the Blind
Is pleased to sponsor the
2012 Missouri Regional Braille Challenge

Where: Missouri School for the Blind
3815 Magnolia Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63110

When: February 16, 2012
9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (lunch is included)

How: Just complete your registration (see link below) by January 26, 2012 and mail/fax (314-776-1875) to MSB c/o C. Klevorn

Need Help: Contact Christina Klevorn, Braille Challenge Coordinator at Christina.Klevorn@msb.dese.mo.gov or 314-776-4320 x 2330. OR Joy Waddell, Assistant Superintendent at 314-776-4320 x 1140

What is the Braille Challenge?

The Braille Challenge is a national Braille contest created and sponsored by the Braille Institute of America. The Braille Challenge is a two-stage academic competition designed to support and enrich the reading and writing of Braille.

Stage 1: Students participate in the regional Event or a Preliminary Round in their home state.

Stage 2: The top 60 eligible students nationwide are invited to Los Angeles to compete in the Final Rounds! (June 2012).

Braille Challenge 2012 Categories include:

- Braille Speed and Accuracy: Students listen to a taped story and transcribe it—speed and accuracy count.

- Reading Speed and Comprehension: Students silently read a story and answer multiple choice questions.
- Spelling: Students will Braille vocabulary words in uncontracted Braille. Extra points are given for the same words Brailled correctly in contracted Braille.
- Proofreading: Students will read a faulty passage and look for Braille, grammar, punctuation or spelling errors.
- Interpreting Tactile Graphics/Chart and Graph Reading: Students read tactile graphics to answer multiple choice questions.

Who Can Participate?

Braille Readers in Grades 1-2: **Apprentice** – Spelling, reading speed and comprehension and proofreading.

Braille Readers in Grades 3-4: **Freshman** – Spelling, reading speed and comprehension and proofreading.

Braille Readers in Grades 5-6: **Sophomore** – Reading speed and comprehension, proofreading, charts and graphs, and speed and accuracy.

Braille Readers in Grades 7-9: **Junior Varsity** – Reading speed and comprehension, proofreading, speed and accuracy.

Braille Readers in Grades 10-12: **Varsity** – Reading speed and comprehension, proofreading, speed and accuracy.

Students do not need to be at grade level to participate. Students transitioning from print to Braille are welcome.

Get Ready!

The Braille Institute's website, www.braillechallenge.org has sample contests posted for students to practice. Teachers and students can access sample spelling lists, reading comprehension passages/questions, speed and accuracy audio files, proofreading passages, and tactile chart and graph files to emboss at all 5 category levels. Teachers should also review these sample contests to help determine what level their students should register for.

Want to Help?

Contact Christina Klevorn at Christina.Klevorn@msb.dese.mo.gov to volunteer or Barbara Beal at Barbara.Beal@msb.dese.mo.gov to donate.

For registration forms for the Regional Contest at MSB:

www.msb.dese.mo.gov

Missouri School for the Blind wishes to gratefully acknowledge the generous support of our 2012 Regional Braille Challenge sponsors:

Humanware * National Braille Press * Seedlings Braille Books for Children* Braille Institute * St. Louis Lighthouse for the Blind